

Sparsholt Community Support Group

Newsletter* 29th March 2020

(* Anyone have a more creative suggestion for the name?)

Contact phone number for requests for support – **07595 967259**

Contact email address for volunteers and requests for support - **supportgroup@sparsholtparish.org**

Newsletter Co-ordinator – Danielle Kleingeld at **danielle@kleingeld.co.uk**

Volunteer and At Risk Lists Co-ordinator – Jane Kempton at **supportgroupvar@sparsholtparish.org**

Volunteers

Over 70 people have been in touch and volunteered to help out in a variety of ways – how brilliant is that and what a great village we live in !! Your organising group is pulling all those names together and will be in touch with requests for support when needed. Don't be concerned if you're not contacted immediately - there may be little to do in these early weeks. Remember, this situation is likely to go on for some time and continued support will be really important. Thank you so much, please continue to get in touch if you'd like to help out.

The Organising Group will shortly be reaching out for volunteers to join 3 teams of about 3 people that will :

Team 1 – Triage the Support Group inbox and handle urgent requests

Team 2 – Handle Volunteer and At Risk List emails

Team 3 – Process The At Risk Register

These roles would be most applicable to those volunteers who have offered to assist but need to remain in their home

Sparsholt Shop and Post Office

The Shop is still opening from Monday to Saturday. **As of next Monday, 30 March, its opening hours will be changing to 8.00am–1.00pm and the Post Office will be open as usual 9.00am-12.00midday.** Janette is doing great job of staying stocked with most of the necessities but everyone is asked to :

Shop responsibly – only buy what you need.

Adhere to the 'One person in the Shop' policy.

Maintain social distancing when being served outside and when queuing outside where the spacing is marked out on the ground !

Orders and Deliveries. The Shop will continue to do its best to support vulnerable and self isolating villagers by delivering goods. Please use the shop order form available on the shop website <http://www.sparsholtshop.com/> if you can or ring with any requests on 01962 776998. As posted on the website, this service is for vulnerable and those self isolating in Sparsholt Parish – we do not have the resource to deliver further afield.

Parish Newsletter

The Parish Newsletter available as printed copy in the church porch and newspaper rack at the shop. Please take one when passing as part of your daily exercise !

Prayer for the Day

Sadly our church is now closed for general use but prayer is still very important. A 'Prayer for the Day' will be posted on this website every day by the Parochial Church Council to help our prayer lives across the village.

NHS Letter to the Most Vulnerable

Doctors surgeries are working hard to get letters out to the 1.5 M most vulnerable. If you know of anyone at very high risk and they have not received their letter then the text of the letter can be found here:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/wp-content/uploads/sites/52/2020/03/at-risk-patient-letter-march-2020.pdf>

Online Shopping Links

These links were operational at time of writing :

Bread - Hoxton Bakehouse offer home deliveries for minimum orders of £15
www.hoxtonbakehouse.com

Sanitising gel - Morgans Pomade are still selling hand sanitising gel online

<https://www.morganspomade.co.uk/product/mens-grooming/hair-and-body-wash/morgans-advanced-hand-sanitising-gel/>

Fraud

Criminals often take advantage of stressful and uncertain times to prey on the vulnerable so an increase in fraud, particularly online fraud is possible. Be careful for fraudsters pretending to be from HMRC or other official bodies

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/latest/features-and-news/coronavirus-scam-calls-and-texts>

<https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/news/online-safety-advice-issued-response-400-increase-coronavirus-scams>

Broader Community Action and Advice

Winchester City Council : The following link from Winchester Council aims to answer frequently asked questions: <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/community-recreation/advice-for-residents>

Local Resilience Forum

You may hear about The Local Resilience Forum (LRF) which will be run by Hampshire County Council (HCC) and will be managing the situation locally with all of the other services such as police. We understand that the LRF will begin operating in next week to support the 1.5 million assessed to be most vulnerable and who have received letters offering help (food/prescriptions etc). If anyone who does receive a letter does need help through this system, they'll be asked to ring HCC. They will then pass the request to the Districts – i.e. Winchester. HCC will receive food supplies centrally and give each District the allocation for their area for distribution. The Support Group will liaise with the LRF, be in close contact with our Parish and City Councillors, and may assist in the delivery of their services.

Helping Others

Winchester Foodbank -Sparsholt has a fantastic record of helping others but it's worth remembering those less fortunate than ourselves at this time. The foodbank is a great cause and they would welcome your support :

<https://winchesterbasicsbank.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/20200318-WBB-needs.pdf>

Staying safe when Volunteering

Please see the Government advice on staying safe while volunteering:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely--2/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely>

 HM Government

